

LODGE BULLETIN

AUGUST 2023

WWW.AW22.ORG

MASTER'S MESSAGE

Brethren—

Our August stated speaker is Worshipful Fred Baerenz, who was raised in our Lodge forty years ago this August. This year, he is serving as Worshipful Master for the very first time in his Masonic career. Between his fortieth Masonic Birthday and losing Worshipful Bill Jones at the age of ninety-three, I wanted to write about some of the numbers swirling around my head.

Worshipful Jones was three times my age when he passed on the tenth of July. Think of the world he was born into compared to the world I was. At the time of his birth, the Dust Bowl was just beginning. The Great Depression was just ramping up. World War I was still called the Great War.

In contrast, I shared the Earth with the Soviet Union for just thirty-two days. I grew up with a computer in my home. The Dow Jones Industrial Average did not have a losing year for the first nine years of my life. The point I make is the world I inherited is a much better place than what past generations were born into.

This is a perspective you are going to hear for the years to come. The average age of our progressive line, if you include the stewards, is thirty-four at the time of this writing. These are exciting times, but being led by a young cohort is not inherently a good thing in isolation. Brothers like Worshipful Baerenz and Jones, and so many others, who continue to support our Lodge after so many years of service are key to ensuring this generation can plant the seeds for future ones to sow. Isn't it wonderful that our order encourages such cross generational brotherhood?

While this year, for me, is one where I can impart a significant amount of Masonic work in a relatively short amount of time, I am taking my queues from men like Worshipful Baerenz and Jones: my commitment to our Lodge is a lifelong endeavor. I hope you see your membership in the same way. Selfishly, I hope you join me in the lofty Masonic work we still have to do this year, but I encourage you to take a long term approach to your Masonic journey. It is a lifetime commitment with lifetime benefits and friendship. Hopefully you see it the same way I do and rekindle your passion for Masonry this busy Masonic month.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,
David G. Bella
Worshipful Master
Master@AW22.org
228-282-0906





AUGUST 2023

August 4th
17:30 Community Builders
Presentation &
Archives Exhibit

August 24th
19:30 EA Lodge

August 10th
18:30 Dinner
19:30 Stated Communication:
Wor. Fred Baerenz

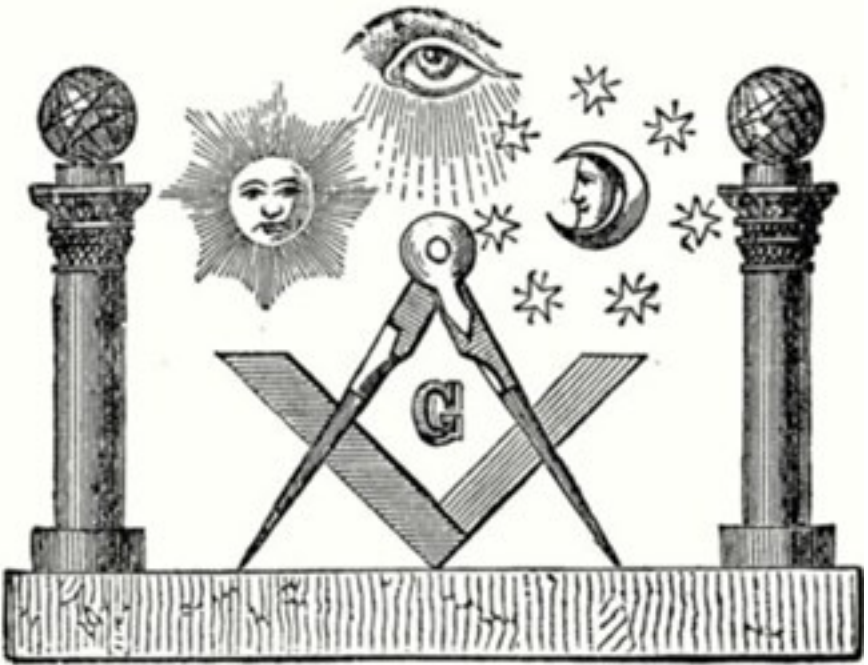
August 21st
19:30 Fraternal Visit
Elmer Timberman No. 54

August 11th & 12th
Reid J. Simmons Academy
Roanoke, VA

August 27th
14:00 Trustees Meeting

August 21st
19:00 Esoteric Corner:
Chamber of Reflection

- ∴ Catechism Schools are every Thursday night at 18:30 and Saturday morning at 10:00 unless otherwise noted. Officer Ritual Schools are every Thursday night at 19:30 unless otherwise noted. All Masons are welcome.*
- ∴ To follow the Master's personal Masonic schedule, please view the Master@AW22.org shared [Google Calendar](#).*



BILL OF FARE

AUGUST 10TH, 2023

BLACKENED GARLIC CHICKEN

GRILLED SHRIMP KABOBS

MAC AND CHEESE

GARLIC GREEN BEANS

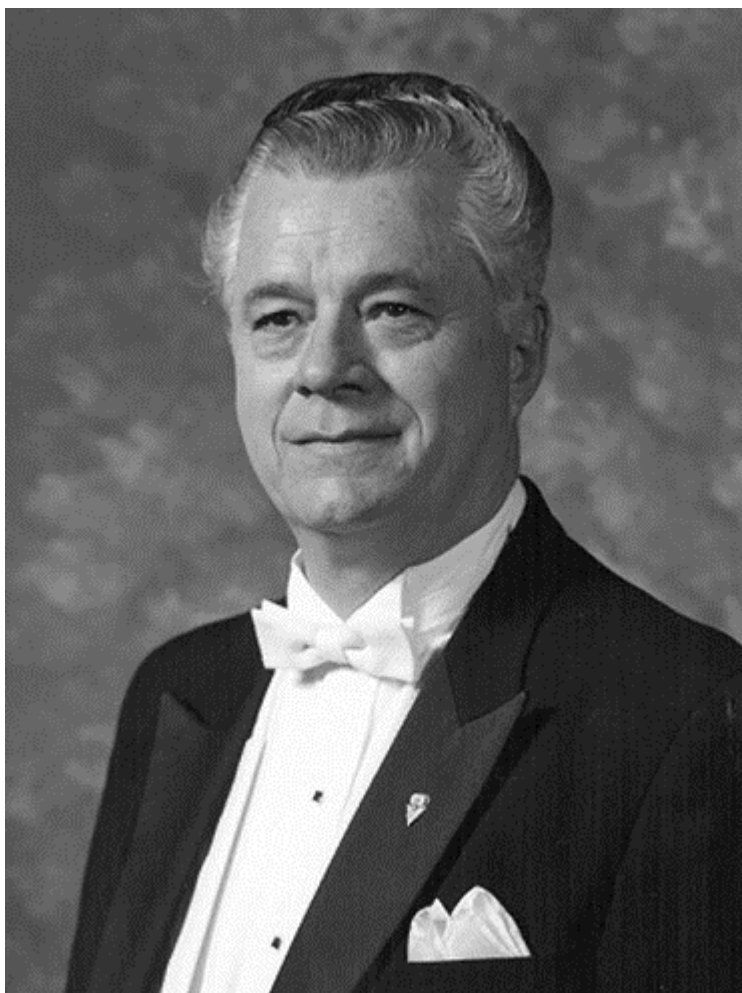
Suggested Donation \$10.00

Please RSVP to Reservations@AW22.org

WORSHIPFUL “BILL” JONES

Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 mourns the passing of Worshipful William Albert Jones.

Worshipful Jones was laid to rest in a Masonic burial ceremony conducted by his Lodge on July 20th, 2023 at Quantico National Cemetery.



WORSHIPFUL “BILL” JONES

William Albert Jones, 93, of Gore, Virginia, passed away on Monday, July 10, 2023 peacefully at his home. Bro. Jones was born in 1930 in Washington D.C., the son of the late William and Elizabeth Jones. He served our country as a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps and played the trumpet in the Marine Corps Band. He retired from the Federal Government as an AID Agent.

Worshipful Brother Jones was initiated April 19, 1982, passed July 15, 1982, and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason October 20, 1982. He served as master of the Lodge in 1988. He was also a member of the American Legion and a member of the Honor Society of the 40/8 American Legion. Wor. Jones and his wife were also members of the Eastern Star, Chapter No. 42. He loved hunting, fishing, bowling, playing golf and was especially interested in photography.

He married Margaret “Jenny” G. Jones on July 30, 1948, in Washington D.C. She preceded him in death on December 24, 2005. He is survived by his children, William A. Jones, Jr., and wife Annette, Richard A. Jones, Sandra “Sandi” Jett and her husband John; daughter-in-law, Lisa Jones; eleven grandchildren, and his great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his wife, parents; daughter, Theresa “Terry” Marie Jones; sons, Clifford E. Jones, Jeffery L. Jones and two grandchildren.



2023 GOAL UPDATE

We are more than half way through this busy Masonic year. What a privilege it has been to work along side you. As outlined in our Mid-Year Update, I project that we will likely achieve eight of the fifteen goals, five are “maybes”, and two are looking unlikely. Here are three “maybes” I am asking for help from the membership:

EXCELLENCE IN MASONRY 3.6

MOST APPENDANT BODY MEMBERS IN D1A

Have you been putting off joining a particular appendant body? Help our local appendant bodies grow by joining the Alexandria Scottish Rite Valley for their Fall Reunion on October 21st and 28th, or join the Mount Vernon Royal Arch Chapter by attending a one-day festival on October 7th.

LODGE OF WASHINGTON 2.5

3 PUBLISHED ARTICLES ON WASHINGTON

Many thanks to Brother Chris Ruli who was published in the Winter edition of the Scottish Rite Journal, but we need two more articles. The Winter Deadline for the Virginia Masonic Herald is November 1. Your article can pertain to any aspect of Brother Washington’s life.

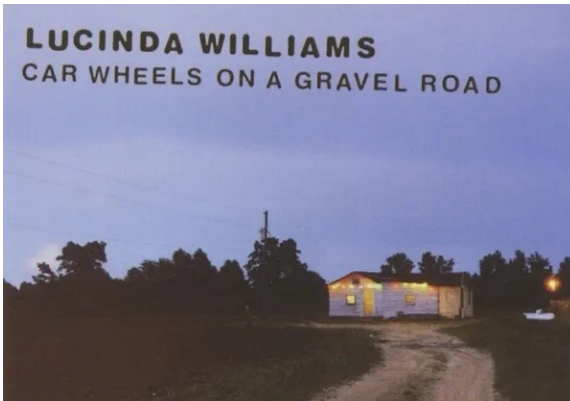
EXCELLENCE IN MASONRY 3.4

VISIT 3 MASONIC ARCHITECTURAL WONDERS

We already visited one and are planning to visit a second, but a third trip remains unplanned. The Scottish Rite House of the Temple is a natural choice to complete the trifecta. If anyone is interested in planning a tour of the House of the Temple, please let me know.

ALBUM OF THE MONTH

CAR WHEELS ON A GRAVEL ROAD
LUCINDA WILLIAMS, 1998



Growing up in Mississippi, I see myself in Lucinda's songs....not always in the best light.

∴ David

Fate is a beast with two masters—effort and circumstance. Indisputably, one's fate is influenced by the effort he puts forth; the net sum of his works and decisions. Man's choices, if he can help it, guide the general direction of his life, to the point where much of the human experience can be viewed as an exercise in cause-and-effect. It appeals to Man's strong sense of justice that someone who makes good choices, who upholds morality and leads a virtuous life, should be rewarded by some measure of cosmic propriety for his virtue. By the same token, it would only make sense that those who undergo hardship do so as a direct result of some imprudent action—be they lazy, or complacent, or else wicked in their desires. It is a neat, bow-tied narrative to connect the dots between "I always exemplified a good work ethic" and "I became financially successful."

But so much of life lies in the realm of circumstance, beyond man's control-- his natural disposition, his intelligence, his appearance, and his social standing at the time of his birth (and, some would argue, his immutable rank from there on). Going further: the decisions of his government's officials, the year of his birth, the housing market, large things like the trajectory of Earth-threatening meteors, and small things like a single misshapen cell that replicates itself into stage IV cancer. No matter how fastidiously we dress ourselves for our date with destiny, there is the simple fat that destiny sometimes stands us up, and never comes to call.

ALBUM OF THE MONTH

CAR WHEELS ON A GRAVEL ROAD
LUCINDA WILLIAMS, 1998

There have been many Albert Einsteins who were born as peasants in the Dark Ages, and whose genius therefore went unrecognized. So too have there been Marilyn Monroes who worked in the wrong munitions factory and were never discovered for the talents they were.

Circumstance is the primary antagonist of Lucinda Williams' 1998 album, *Car Wheels on a Gravel Road*. Appropriately, Williams often commented about the tribulations associated with the record. It was a three-year odyssey, complete with redubs, overhauls, the failure of a record label, and the replacement of the album's producer, Gurf Morlix, with Steve Earle, who brought a self-described "hip-hop" balance to the final mix. This album is like strolling through a junkyard of lovestruck memories and desecrated talismans. Lucinda, like (the unrelated) Hank Williams, finds the ineffable within the mundane; the simplicity of the lyrics belies the complexity of emotion that Lucinda achieves when she sings them. From Lake Charles to Jackson to Greenville, this album is transitory, and the bucolic vignettes showcased on the album display the common tragedy of a common existence — people who, regardless of their efforts, are damned to insignificance by the circumstances into which they were born. This is an album dominated by the themes of fate and fantasy, which sometimes conflict and sometimes co-occupy and which are sometimes indistinguishable from one another. This album is a dedication to those whose lives were thwarted not by effort, but by circumstance. It is an ode to those who never were, not by any flaw of their own, but by the inopportunity of their own circumstance.

From the beginning of "Right In Time," the first track on the album, Lucinda's voice is the renegade dream of the spoken-for; the unrequited; the unpolished and looked-over; those who long for a reality other than that which they currently occupy. On this track, Lucinda excruciates over the hum-drum drudgery of an unexciting life, made even more plain by the exit of a lover. This track is the exemplar for the entire album — the narrator, sparsely, confronts the abandonment of a lover (her fate), yet periodically (as represented by the chorus) indulges in a fantasy in which she can experience his love again.

"Drunken Angel" is another key exhibit. It focuses on what could be or what might've been in a perfect world where people treat each other and themselves the way they ought to be treated — where the purest forms of ourselves are realized; where there are no missed trains or connections; no broken vows or burned bridges; no hate expressed and

ALBUM OF THE MONTH

CAR WHEELS ON A GRAVEL ROAD

LUCINDA WILLIAMS, 1998

no hurt internalized. A complete synchronicity of all that we were, all that we are, all that we will be and all that we will never be. The story of the universe seen through plain eyes, and all of the agonies and ecstasies of our existence brought to microcosm. Here, we see the narrator's fantasy of a personal and romantic fulfillment superimposed over the destruction of the subject of that fantasy. Even in this daydream, the fantasy is tethered to unambiguous acknowledgements of the title subject's fatal flaws, as the narrator's suspension of falters when faced with the intrusive reality of the eponymous character's self-destruction.

On "Lake Charles," there are accordions which should, geographically, be Zydeco, but are much closer in sound to Norteño. This reinforces the outsider perspective carried by the song's subject, who hails from Texas but claims to be from Louisiana. Tellingly, he says that he is from Nack-a-do-ches (as it is pronounced in Texas) rather than Nack-a-tish (as it is pronounced in Louisiana) – the difference marking him as a pretender and exposing his fantasy for the charade that it is.

"Concrete and Barbed Wire" next alludes to the seemingly simple solutions to an impossible problem rooted in one's core nature. These problems are deeply personal, whereas the solutions are mass-manufactured. This song speaks of a "wall [that] divides us" but asserts that the wall is "not real," which suggests the narrator's commitment to achieving synchronicity between their fantasy and fate. On "Metal Firecracker," the passion transmitted through this song escalates into a white-hot nuclear reaction, which is of unimaginable strength, but which also depletes its fuel in an instant, leaving the most direct rejection of the narrator's fantasy in the form of "Still I long for Your Kiss."

The final two songs on the album are "Joy" and "Jackson." The former is a pledge of revenge against a destroyed fantasy, in which the protagonist asserts her search for another source of delusion. Central to this song is a symbolic defloration of the narrator, wherein her spiritual, emotional existence is reduced to a physical, debased plane.

"Jackson" functions as a cocoon of sorrow and disappointment. In structure, it is a traditional train song, and it is typical in its portrayal of transition, acceptance, reflection, rumination, hope, fear, and love. What it offers though, is a poignant coda to the album as a whole – that though our fates may not always live up to our fantasies, there is always a new direction forward – a new aspiration; a new dream; a new fantasy.

HAPPY MASONIC BIRTHDAY

Bro. Larry Askins, Aug 4, 5 years
Wor. Frederick Baerenz, Aug 25, 40 years
Bro. Craig Bogle, Aug 25, 5 years
Bro. Olivier Chantry, Aug 4, 5 years
Bro. Andrew Corsun, Aug 20, 11 years
Bro. Alexander Cumana, Aug 4, 5 years
Bro. Derek Erkkila, Aug 4, 5 years
Wor. Daniel Fink, Aug 27, 12 years
Wor. Terry Gigure, Aug 29, 29 years
Wor. Marin Goranov, Aug 28, 2 years
Bro. Scott Humphrey, Aug 25, 63 years
Bro. Aaron Irvin, Aug 4, 5 years
Bro. Robert Leyshion, Aug 27, 18 years
Bro. Thomas Lynch, Aug 6, 1 year
Bro. Dimitar Mavrov, Aug 27, 18 years
Bro. Allen Mayfield, Aug 25, 5 years
Wor. John Olson, Aug 8, 18 years
Bro. Ralph Olson, Aug 8, 18 years
Bro. Ammar Oumalek, Aug 27, 1 year
Bro. James Owens, Aug 19, 27 years
Bro. Simeon Petkov, Aug 27, 9 years
Bro. Donald Reynolds, Aug 29, 27 years
Bro. Robert Swanson, Aug 26, 2 years
Bro. Jason Windsor, Aug 11, 12 years

2023 LODGE OFFICERS

Wor. David Gabriel Bella.....	Worshipful Master
<i>Mobile: 228-282-0906 Email: Master@AW22.org</i>	
Bro. Nelo Allen Hamilton, Jr.....	Senior Warden
Bro. Phillip Adam Smartt.....	Junior Warden
Wor. Michael Lee Bailey, PM.....	Treasurer
Wor. Daniel Elias Froggett, PM.....	Secretary
<i>Phone: 703-549-9234 Email: Secretary@AW22.org 101 Callahan Dr., Alexandria, Va. 22301</i>	
Rt. Wor. Granville Clayton "Jack" Canard, Jr., PDDGM.....	Secretary Emeritus
Bro. Jonathan Joseph Siudmak.....	Senior Deacon
Bro. Ronald Earl Craft, Jr.....	Junior Deacon
Wor. Denislav Valeriev Dantev, PM.....	Chaplain
Bro. Christopher Gared Sterbling.....	Senior Steward
Bro. Jakob Aonghus Zilinski.....	Junior Steward
Bro. James Henry Ferguson.....	Marshal
Wor. Pablo Alejandro Rocha, PM.....	Tiler

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rt. Wor. Mark W. Underwood, PDDGM.....	2023
Bro. Jeffrey W. C. Conn.....	2024
Wor. James Berkely Stone, PM.....	2025
Wor. Jesse T. McMahan, V, PM.....	2026
Wor. Nikola N. Nikolav, PM.....	2027

LIVING PAST MASTERS ON THE ROLLS

1975	Donald M. Robey, PGM	2005	Jesse T. McMahan, V
1976	James B. Stone	2006	Thomas G. Little
1991	Earl C. Million	2007	Robert G. Watkins, PDDGM
1992	Granville C. Canard, JR, PDDGM	2009	Heber C. Willis, III
1995	George D. Seghers, PDDGM	2011	John P. Olson
1996,18	Mark W. Underwood, PDDGM	2012	Michael L. Bailey
1997	Walter L. Margeson, II	2013	Joshua D. Adler
1998	Philip J. Hays	2014	Robert T. Weston
1999,17	Michael P. Bible, PDDGM	2016	Stephen J. Pezzetti
2000	Terry L. Gigure	2019	Nikola N. Nikolov
2001	Brent N. Campbell	2020	Daniel E. Froggett
2002	Daniel M. Clark, PDDGM	2021	Michael T. Huff
2003	James M. Stevenson	2022	Denislav V. Dantev
2004	Frank S. Skwirut		